

Message Text

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11

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 EB-04 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-01 OMB-01

CEA-01 COME-00 FRB-01 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-01 SIL-01

/074 W

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R 120700Z NOV 74

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6282

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, PGOV, IS, JO

SUBJ: LOCAL ARAB REACTION TO GOI AUSTERITY MEASURES

1. REACTION OF EAST JERUSALEM ARAB POPULATION TO GOI AUSTERITY MEASURES IS ONE OF BITTERNESS AND DESPAIR.

2. ARABIC DAILY "EL QUDS" ATTACKED THE MEASURES WHICH IT CLAIMED CAUSED SUFFERING AS A RESULT OF AN INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF STAPLES OF MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED PERCENT. THE EDITORIAL CALLED ON ARAB MERCHANTS TO ADHERE TO THEIR "RELIGIOUS MORALS AND NATIONALISM" AND NOT EXPLOIT THEIR OWN PEOPLE.

3. THE SAME DAILY REPORTED DEMONSTRATIONS OF WEST BANK RESIDENTS IN THE TOWN OF NABLUS WHERE RESIDENTS MARCHED ON THE TOWN HALL.

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THE PAPER ALSO REPORTED "GENERAL DISPLEASURE" OF RESIDENTS IN

RAMALLAH, BIREH AND HEBRON. HEBRON MAYOR JAABARI REPORTEDLY
APPEALED TO GOI AUTHORITIES TO REVIEW MEASURES. GONGEN LIMITED
SAMPLING OF PRICES IN EAST JERUSALEOREVEALED MANY MERCHANTS
DOUBLING PRICES OF FOODTLTUFFS.

4. COMMENT: EAST JERUSALEM AND WEST BANK RESIDENTS, WHOSE COST
OF LIVING IS DIRECTLY TIED TO PRICES IN THE ISRAELI ECONOMY,
HAVE BEEN HIT MUCH HARDER EVEN THAN ISRAELIS AS A RESULT OF
GOI AUSTERITY MEASURES BECAUSE OF THE TREMENDOUS DISPARITY IN
PER CAPITA INCOME OF WEST BANK ARABS AND ISRAELIS.
DAY

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